



STATEMENT TO NEW YORK STATE INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION
FROM WIN-SIE TOW, CIVIC ENGAGEMENT ORGANIZER, CHINESE PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION
NEW YORK COUNTY PUBLIC HEARING
FEBRUARY 7, 2023 AT HUNTER COLLEGE

Good evening commissioners. My name is Win-Sie Tow and I work as the Civic Engagement Organizer for the Chinese Progressive Association, based in Manhattan's Chinatown and the Lower East Side. We work towards social and economic justice for our community and are a member of the APA Redistricting task force.

As a non-partisan non-profit, we frequently engage with the community on the ground doing voter outreach and education, phone banking to get out the vote, as well as rallying for immigrants' rights. Our residents share similar identities, interests, and backgrounds. They take ESL classes at Manny Cantor center, attend after-school programs at Immigrant Social Services, they have similar concerns about public safety and transportation, affordable housing and the need for more culturally responsive services.

During the height of the pandemic in 2020, I also managed a food distribution center on Broome Street. Every week, we gave out over 200 bags of fresh produce to community residents-- from seniors at Grand St. Settlement to residents at NYCHA Seward Park extension to families with kids attending nearby P.S. 20 to patients at Gouveneur hospital. It is clear that Chinatown and the Lower East Side are a community of interest that would benefit from having the same state assembly representative.

Therefore, I support the IRC draft map for AD 65 to keep Manhattan's Chinatown and the Lower East Side whole.

Thank you for the opportunity to be heard.